Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ of claim ~~1~~ 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein information about the decoding capabilities and tandem free operation capabilities on the second side of the packet network is transmitted ~~(321, 421, 521)~~ to the first side of the packet network.

3. (Currently Amended) A method ~~according to claim 29~~ for transmitting information related to tandem free operation, comprising:

connecting a cellular network comprising a tandem free operation capable coding-decoding unit to a packet network via a first gateway;

connecting an entity to the packet network via a second gateway;

transmitting data over the packet network between said coding-decoding unit on a first side of the packet network and said entity on a second side of the packet network;

transmitting information about the decoding capabilities and tandem free operation capabilities on the first side of the packet network from the first gateway to the second gateway over the packet network to the second side of the packet network for enabling on said second side of the packet network transmission of data frames to the packet network, when such data frames are either received from said entity or producible using at least information received from said entity, said data frames carrying coded data and signaling information relating to tandem free operation, and the coding of the coded data in the data frames corresponding to the decoding capabilities on the first side;
~~characterized in that~~
wherein said first gateway comprises a media gateway and a media gateway controller, and said information is transmitted from the media gateway controller to the second gateway.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ of claim ~~1~~ 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the tandem free operation capabilities and decoding capabilities on the first side of the packet network and ~~the~~ a current decoding method that is used in the cellular network on said side of the packet network are transmitted ~~(320)~~ to the second side of the packet network.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ of claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein information about the current decoding method is inferred ~~(310, 311)~~ from the tandem free operation frames that are comprised in ~~the~~ a data flow that comes towards the packet network.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ of claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein information about the current coding method that is used in a cellular network on the first side of the packet network is inferred ~~(310, 311)~~ from the tandem free operation frames that are comprised in the data flow that comes towards the packet network.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ of claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein information about the decoding capabilities of the cellular network on the first side of the packet network is transmitted ~~(420, 520)~~ to the second side of the packet network.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ of claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein information about the decoding capabilities of the cellular network on the first side of the packet network is established ~~(410, 510)~~ by transmitting said information from said cellular network.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ of claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said entity is a cellular network, and [[-]] the coding and decoding capabilities of each cellular network is transmitted to the other cellular network and [[-]] the coding and decoding

methods used in a certain connection are negotiated (540) between the cellular networks when the connection is established.

10. (Currently Amended) A The method according to of claim 9, characterized in that wherein instructions on how to transmit the data flow coming from each cellular network are transmitted (550, 551) from the cellular networks towards the packet network.

11. (Currently Amended) A The method according to of claim 1 3, characterized in that the wherein calls are transmitted over the packet network using a certain protocol defined for real time applications and information about the decoding capabilities and tandem free operation capabilities on the first side of the packet network are transmitted to the second side of the packet network using a certain control protocol for real time applications.

12. (Currently Amended) A The method according to of claim 11, characterized in that wherein information about the decoding capabilities and tandem free operation capabilities is transmitted in Real-Time Transport Control Protocol (RTCP) messages.

13. (Currently Amended) A The method according to of claim 11, characterized in that wherein information about the decoding capabilities and tandem free operation capabilities is transmitted in Real-Time Transport Protocol (RTP) messages.

14. (Currently Amended) A The method according to of claim 11, characterized in that wherein information about the decoding capabilities and tandem free operation capabilities is transmitted in H.245 signaling messages.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ A decoding information exchange arrangement for exchanging information over a packet network ~~according to claim 15, characterized in that~~ comprising:

means for establishing tandem free operation information about the tandem free operation capability on its side of the packet network and

means for communicating data structures over the packet network;

means for establishing decoding information about decoders on its side of the packet network, [[-]] said means ~~(612)~~ for establishing decoding information comprise means ~~(813)~~ for establishing information about a decoder used in a certain connection over the packet network;

means for establishing information about a decoder used in a certain connection over the packet network;

means for establishing a data structure that comprises said tandem free operation information and at least a certain part of said decoding information; and

means for receiving information about tandem free operation capability and decoding information on another side of the network for enabling to the packet network transmission of data frames, when such data frames are either received from its side of the packet network or producible using at least information received from its side of the packet network, said data frames carrying coded data and signaling information relating to tandem free operation, and the coding of the coded data in the data frames corresponding to the decoding capabilities on the other side.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The arrangement ~~according to~~ of claim 15, ~~characterized in that it~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising:

means ~~(619)~~ for receiving instructions about the processing of tandem free operation frames.

18. (Currently Amended) A gateway ~~(610)~~ for connecting a first network to a certain side of a second network, which second network is a packet network, ~~which gateway comprises~~ comprising:

[[-]] means ~~(614)~~ for establishing tandem free operation information about the tandem free operation capability on ~~the~~ said side of the second network; ~~and~~

[[-]] means ~~(616)~~ for communicating data structures over the second network[[,]]; ~~characterized in that it further comprises~~

[[-]] means ~~(612)~~ for establishing decoding information about decoders on said side of the second network[[,]];

[[-]] means ~~(615)~~ for establishing a data structure that comprises said tandem free operation information and at least a certain part of said decoding information; and

[[-]] means ~~(617)~~ for receiving information about tandem free operation capability and decoding information on another side of the second network for enabling to the packet network transmission of data frames, when such data frames are either received from its side of the packet network or producible using at least information received from its side of the packet network, said data frames carrying coded data and signaling information relating to tandem free operation, and the coding of the coded data in the data frames corresponding to ~~the~~ decoding capabilities on said another side.

19. to 27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ of claim ~~1~~ 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the entity comprises a second network or a terminal.

29. (Canceled)

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